Form 141 / 168 / 131 / 26 — The New-Regime TDS Forms Reference Card

Which form governs which reporting requirement under the Income Tax Act 2025 — and how Section 393 payment codes 1001–1092 replace the old Section 194 codes (April 2026 transition).

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Summary — which form does what

Form	Purpose	Cadence	Effective From	Predecessor
Form 141	Quarterly TDS return by deductor (replaces Form 26Q)	Quarterly	FY 2026-27 Q1	Form 26Q
Form 168	Annual TDS statement (deductee-wise credit; replaces Form 26AS)	Annual + rolling	AY 2027-28	Form 26AS
Form 131	TDS certificate to each deductee (replaces Form 16 + 16A)	Annual	FY 2026-27	Form 16 + 16A
Form 27EQ	Statement of TCS collection (retained — not renumbered)	Quarterly	Retained	Form 27EQ

Form-by-form profile

Form 141	Quarterly TDS return (deductor)
What	Quarterly TDS return filed by the deductor.
Rule ref	Rule 31A (retained carrier); Section 200(3), IT Act 2025.
Cadence	Quarterly, 30 days from quarter-end (typical last dates: 31 Jul, 31 Oct, 31 Jan, 31 May).
What's new	Section 393 payment codes 1001–1092 replace old Section 194 codes; PAN–Aadhaar linkage validated at filing; deductee-mapped structure.
Common breakages	Wrong payment code (e.g. 194C 1002 vs 194J 1005); deductee PAN unlinked; quarter-boundary drift on late invoices.
Cross-link	/insights/tds-payment-codes-1001-1092-india/

Form 168	Annual TDS statement (deductee)
What	Annual TDS statement showing deductee-wise credit — successor to Form 26AS.
Rule ref	Section 203AA, IT Act 2025 (new; replaces the earlier Section 203AA notification).
Cadence	Annual issuance with rolling quarterly reflection as deductor filings are processed.
What's new	Live rolling reflection replaces the fixed-date Form 26AS view.
Common breakages	Cross-era mapping ambiguity on FY 2025-26 residuals; deductor filing delays cascade to the deductee's credit.
Cross-link	/insights/form-168-new-tds-statement-india/

Form 131	TDS certificate (deductor to deductee)
What	TDS certificate issued by deductor to each deductee — consolidates old Form 16 (salary) and Form 16A (non-salary).
Rule ref	Rule 31 (updated); Section 203, IT Act 2025.
Cadence	Annual issuance by 15 June following the FY (aligned with return preparation).
What's new	Combined salary + non-salary; deductee PAN–Aadhaar validated before issuance.
Common breakages	PAN mismatch triggering Section 206AA (higher of section rate or 20%).
Cross-link	/insights/form-131-tds-certificate-india/

Form 27EQ	TCS statement (retained)
What	Statement of TCS collection by seller (e.g. Section 206C(1H) e-commerce, Section 206C(1F) scrap).
Rule ref	Rule 31AA (unchanged).
Cadence	Quarterly, same 30-day window as Form 141.
What's new	Retained under IT Act 2025 without renumbering.
Common breakages	Section 194Q vs Section 206C(1H) mutual exclusion — buyer's Section 194Q prevails per CBDT Circular 13/2021.
Cross-link	/insights/cross-era-tds-reconciliation-india/

Transition timeline — the cutover window at a glance

Legacy period (FY 2025-26 / AY 2026-27)
Form 26Q, Form 26AS and Form 16 + 16A continue to apply. Section 194 codes remain in use.

1 April 2026 — IT Act 2025 in force
Statutory cutover. Deductors migrate ERP master data to Section 393 payment codes 1001–1092.

New regime (FY 2026-27 / AY 2027-28)
Form 141 (quarterly), Form 168 (annual + rolling) and Form 131 (certificate) apply. Section 27EQ continues for TCS.

31 March 2027 — Final legacy correction window
Last date to correct legacy TDS returns for FY 2018-19 through FY 2022-23. Irreversible thereafter.

Cross-era payment-code mapping — old Section 194 to new Section 393 (1001–1092)

Old Section	New Payment Code	Description	Rate
194C	1002	Contract payments	1% Ind/HUF; 2% company
194J	1005	Professional / technical services	10%
194H	1015	Commission / brokerage	5%
194I	1004	Rent (land and building)	10%
194Q	1031	Purchase > Rs 50 L (aggregate, per seller)	0.1%
194O	1011	E-commerce operator payments	1%
194A	1010	Interest other than on securities	10%
192	1001	Salaries	Slab rates
195	1050	Foreign remittances	DTAA rate

Rates shown are the standard statutory rates before any deductee-specific concession, threshold, or Section 206AA loading. Non-standard rates (e.g. under DTAA, Section 197 certificates, or Section 206AB non-filer provisions) override the table above.

Practitioner tips for the transition period

- Update ERP master data with Section 393 payment codes (1001–1092) before the April 2026 cutover; freeze legacy Section 194 codes on 31 March 2026.
- Maintain a cross-era mapping column in reconciliation workbooks so FY 2025-26 residuals reconcile cleanly against Form 168 in FY 2026-27 (see the companion TDS Receivable Aging Workbook).
- Follow up deductors within 15 days of each Form 141 quarterly deadline for missing entries — the earlier the query, the higher the correction-success rate before the annual close.
- For Section 197 low-deduction certificates, re-time applications to align with the FY 2026-27 assessment cycle; certificates issued under the old regime do not auto-carry.
- Reconcile PAN–Aadhaar linkage status pre-issuance to avoid Section 206AA (higher of section rate or 20%) firing at Form 131 stage.

Related insights: /insights/cross-era-tds-reconciliation-india/ /insights/tds-payment-codes-1001-1092-india/ /insights/form-168-new-tds-statement-india/ /insights/form-131-tds-certificate-india/

Companion assets: TDS Receivable Aging Workbook · Cross-Era Payment-Code Mapping Cheat Sheet · Deductor Form 168 Query Letter Pack.

Illustrative reference only. Statutory positions in this card summarise the Income Tax Act 2025 and related CBDT notifications as at the version date shown; readers should verify against the latest official text before filing. Nothing here constitutes tax, legal, or investment advice.